

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel claims 21-33 and replace them with new claims 34-44.

1-33. (Canceled).

34. (New) A trash can assembly, comprising:
an outer shell having a top edge and a lower end;
a lid pivotably coupled to the outer shell for movement between an open position and a closed position;
an interior defined by the outer shell and the lid;
a pedal pivotably coupled to the lower end of the outer shell, and having an inner end;
a link rod having an upper end pivotably coupled to the lid and a lower end coupled to the inner end of the pedal; and
a support frame fixedly secured to the top edge of the outer shell, the support frame having a rear section that has a straight portion, with an opening defined between the straight portion and the top edge of the outer shell, and with the link rod extending through the opening.

35. (New) The assembly of claim 34, wherein the opening is located inside the interior.

36. (New) The assembly of claim 34, wherein the support frame has a top edge and a thickness, with at least one groove cut from the top edge and through the thickness of the support frame.

37. (New) The assembly of claim 34, wherein the straight portion of the support frame is a straight wall.

38. (New) The assembly of claim 34, wherein the support frame has a ridge that extends along top edge.

39. (New) The assembly of claim 34, further including a rigid liner positioned in the interior and supported by the straight portion.

40. (New) The assembly of claim 34, wherein the support frame is curved.

41. (New) The assembly of claim 34, wherein the support frame is plastic.

42. (New) A trash can assembly, comprising:

an outer shell having a top edge and a lower end;

a lid pivotably coupled to the outer shell for movement between an open position and a closed position;

an interior defined by the outer shell and the lid;

a pedal pivotably coupled to the lower end of the outer shell, and having an inner end;

a link rod having an upper end pivotably coupled to the lid and a lower end coupled to the inner end of the pedal;

a support frame fixedly secured to the top edge of the outer shell, the support frame having a rear section that has a straight portion, with an opening defined between the straight portion and the top edge of the outer shell, and with the link rod extending through the opening;

wherein the support frame has a top edge and a thickness, with at least one groove cut from the top edge and through the thickness of the support frame; and

a rigid liner positioned in the interior and supported by the straight portion.

43. (New) The assembly of claim 42, wherein the support frame is plastic.

44. (New) The assembly of claim 42, wherein the support frame is curved.